

REMARKS

Claims 1-14 and 16-40 are currently pending. On March 28, 2006, the Examiner rejected claims 36, 37, 39, and 40, and allowed claims 1-14, 16-35, and 38. In this response, Applicant cancels claims 36, 37, 39, and 40. While Applicant does not agree with the Examiner's rejections, to further prosecution, Applicant cancels these claims. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection and requests reconsideration based on the following remarks.

In addition, Applicant does not automatically agree with or acquiesce in the Examiner's characterization of the claims or the prior art, even if those characterizations are not addressed herein.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, First Paragraph

The Examiner rejected claim 40 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which is regarded as the invention. Because Applicant cancels claim 40 with this response, the rejection of this claim is now moot. Therefore, Applicant respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw the rejection.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

The Examiner rejected claim 37 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,770,800 (Jenkins et al.). Because Applicant cancels claim 37 with this response, the rejection of this claim is now moot. Therefore, Applicant respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw the rejection.

The Examiner rejected claims 37 and 40 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,866,978 (Biggerstaff). Because Applicant cancels claims 37

and 40 with this response, the rejection of these claims are now moot. Therefore, Applicant respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw the rejection.

The Examiner rejected claims 36 and 39 under U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,082,1830 (Huber). Because Applicant cancels claims 36 and 39 with this response, the rejection of these claims are now moot. Therefore, Applicant respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw the rejection.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that claims 1-14, 16-35, and 38 stand allowed.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and reexamination of this application and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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